MAR 27 2001

Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>021238-437</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph after the title of the invention on page 1 of the application:

--This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 of PCT/GB99/02863 filed September 1, 1999 which International Application was published

by the International Bureau in English on March 30, 2000 .--

#5A om, 9/1/01